

Lecture 10

Pointers and Dynamic Memory

Fundamentals of Computer and Programming

Instructor: Morteza Zakeri, Ph.D. (m-zakeri@live.com)

Spring 2024

Modified Slides from Dr. *Hossein Zeinali* and Dr. *Bahador Bakhshi*

Computer Engineering Department, Amirkabir University of Technology



What We Will Learn

- Introduction
- Pointers and Functions
- Pointers and Arrays
- Pointers and Strings
- Pointer to Pointer & Pointer to Function
- Dynamic memory allocation



What We Will Learn

- Introduction
- Pointers and Functions
- Pointers and Arrays
- Pointers and Strings
- Pointer to Pointer & Pointer to Function
- Dynamic memory allocation



Pointer: Reference to Memory

- **Pointer** is a variable that
 - Contains the **address** of **another variable**
- Pointer **refers** to an address
- Examples

```
int i;
```

```
int *pi;
```

```
i = 20;
```

```
pi = &i;
```



Pointer: Declaration and Initialization

➤ `<type> * <identifier>;`

➤ Examples

```
int i, *pi;
```

```
pi = &i;
```

```
float f;
```

```
float *pf = &f;
```

```
char c, *pc = &c;
```

```
int &ref = i; // Only C++
```



Value of referred memory by a pointer

```
int *pi, *pj, i, j;
```

- **pi** variable contains the memory address
 - If you assign a value to it: `pi = &i;`
 - The address is saved in **pi**
 - If you read it: `pj = pi;`
 - The address is copied from **pi** to **pj**
- ***pi** is the value of **referred memory**
 - If you read it: `j = *pi;`
 - The **value in the referred address** is read from **pi**
 - If you assign a value to it: `*pj = i;`
 - The value is saved in the **referred address**



Using Pointers: Example

```
int i = 10, j;  
/* address of i is 100, value of i is 10 */  
/* address of j is 200, value of j is ?? */  
int *pi;  
/* address of pi is 300, value of pi is ?? */  
pi = &i;  
/* address of pi is 300, value of pi is 100 */  
j = *pi;  
/* address of j is 200, value of j is 10 */  
*pi = 20;  
/* address of pi is 300, value of pi is 100 */  
/* address of i is 100, value of i is 20 */
```



Using Pointers: Example

```
double d1, d2, *pda, *pdb;  
d1 = 10;  
d2 = 20;  
pda = &d1;  
pdb = &d1;  
*pda = 15;  
d2 = d2 + *pdb;  
printf("d2 = %f\n", d2); // d2 = 35.0
```



Using Pointers: Example

- In C, you can cast between a pointer and an int
- A pointer is just a **32-bit** or **64-bit** number (depending on machine architecture) referring to the aforementioned chunk of memory.

```
#include <stdio.h>
```

```
int main () {
```

```
    int x = 5;
```

```
    int *ref = &x;           // now ref points to x
```

```
    printf ("%d\n", x);      // print the value of x // 5
```

```
    printf ("%p\n", &x);    // print the address of x // 0x7ffe4b79fb1c
```

```
    printf ("%p\n", &ref);  // print the address of the pointer variable  
    // 0x7ffe4b79fb20
```

```
    printf ("%d\n", *ref);   // print the value of the int that ref is  
    pointing to // 5
```

```
    return 0;
```

```
}
```



Pointer: Reference to Memory

- Pointer variable contains an address
- There is a special address
 - NULL
- We can NOT
 - Read any value from NULL
 - Write any value to NULL
- If you try to read/write → Run time error
- NULL is usually used
 - For pointer initialization
 - Check some conditions



What We Will Learn

- Introduction
- **Pointers and Functions**
- Pointers and Arrays
- Pointers and Strings
- Pointer to Pointer & Pointer to Function
- Dynamic memory allocation



Call by value

```
void func(int y) {  
    y = 0;  
}  
  
void main(void) {  
    int x = 100;  
    func(x);  
    printf("%d", x); // 100 not 0  
}
```

➤ Call by value

- The **value** of the x is copied to y
- By changing y, x is **not** changed



Call by reference

➤ Call by reference

- The value of variable is **not** copied to function
- If function changes the input parameter → the variable passed to the input is changed
- Is implemented by pointers in C

```
void func(int *y) {  
    *y = 0;  
}  
  
void main(void) {  
    int x = 100;  
    func(&x);  
    printf("%d", x); // 0 😊  
}
```



Pointers in Functions

```
void add(double a, double b, double *res) {  
    *res = a + b;  
    return;  
}  
  
int main(void) {  
    double d1 = 10.1, d2 = 20.2;  
    double result = 0;  
    add(d1, d2, &result);  
    printf("%f\n", result); // 30.3  
    return 0;  
}
```



What happen?

```
double result = 0;
```

- The address of result is 100, value of result is 0

```
add(d1, d2, &result);
```

- Value of d1, Value of d2 and the address of result is copied to add

```
add(double a, double b, double *res)
```

- Value of a is the value of d1, value of b is the value of d2 and value of res is 100 and the value of *res is 0

```
*res = a + b;
```

- Value of a is added to b and output is saved in the referred address by res (100)
- But the 100 is the address of result. Therefore the value is saved in memory location **result**



Swap function (the **wrong** version)

```
void swap(double a, double b){  
    double temp;  
    temp = a;  
    a = b;  
    b = temp;  
    return;  
}
```

```
int main(void){  
    double d1 = 10.1, d2 = 20.2;  
    printf("d1 = %f, d2 = %f\n", d1, d2 );  
                                                // d1 = 10.1, d2 = 20.2  
  
    swap(d1, d2);  
    printf("d1 = %f, d2 = %f\n", d1, d2);  
    return 0;  
                                                // d1 = 10.1, d2 = 20.2
```



swap function (the correct version)

```
void swap(double *a, double *b) {  
    double temp;  
    temp = *a;  
    *a = *b;  
    *b = temp;  
    return;  
}
```

```
void main(void) {  
    double d1 = 10.1, d2 = 20.2;  
    printf("d1 = %f, d2 = %f\n", d1, d2);  
    swap(&d1, &d2); // d1 = 10.1, d2 = 20.2  
    printf("d1 = %f, d2 = %f\n", d1, d2);  
    // d1 = 20.2, d2 = 10.1  
}
```



Pointer as the function output

- Functions can return a pointer as output
- But, the address pointed by the pointer must be valid after the function finishes
 - The pointed variable must exist
 - It must **not** be automatic local variable of the function
 - It can be **static local variable**, **global variable**, or the **input parameter**



Pointer as the function output

```
int gi;  
  
int * func_a(void) {  
    return &gi;  
}  
  
float * func_b(void) {  
    static float x;  
    return &x;  
}
```



Pointer to constant: **const** <type> *

➤ If the input parameter

- Is a pointer
- But should not be changed

➤ Why?

- We do not want to copy the value of variable
 - Value can be very large (array or struct)
- We do not allow the function to change the variable

```
void func(const double *a) {  
    *a = 10.0; //compile error  
}
```



Constant pointer: `<type> * const`

- If a variable is a constant pointer
 - We **cannot** assign a new address to it

```
void func(int * const a) {  
    int x, y;  
    int * const b = &y;  
  
    a = &x; //compile error  
    b = &x; //compile error  
    *a = 100; // no error  
}
```



What We Will Learn

- Introduction
- Pointers and Functions
- **Pointers and Arrays**
- Pointer and Strings
- Pointer to Pointer & Pointer to Function
- Dynamic memory allocation



Operations on Pointers

➤ Arithmetic

✓ `<pointer> - or + <integer>` (or `<pointer> -= or += <integer>`)

✓ `<pointer>++ or <pointer>--`

✓ `<pointer> - <pointer>` (they must be the same type)

✗ `<pointer> + <pointer>` **NOT ALLOWED**

➤ Comparison between pointers

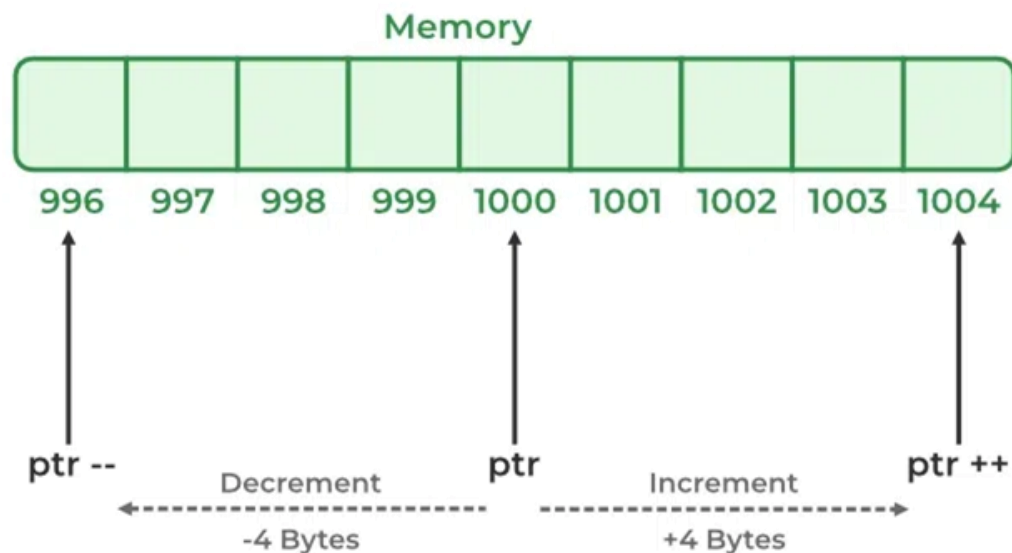
```
int arr[20];  
int *pi, *pj, i;  
pi = &arr[10];  
pj = &arr[15];  
i = pj - pi;           // i = 5  
i = pi - pj;           // i = -5  
if(pi < pj)             // if is True  
if(pi == pj)           // if is False
```



Operations on Pointers

- If an integer pointer that stores address 1000 is decremented, then it will decrement by **4 (size of an int)**, and the new address will point to 996.

Pointer Increment & Decrement



Operations on Pointers Examples

```
int a = 22;
int *p = &a;
printf("p = %u\n", p); //p = 6422288
p++; printf("p++ = %u\n", p); //p++ = 6422292 +4 // 4 bytes
p--;
printf("p-- = %u\n", p); //p-- = 6422288 -4 // restored to original value

float b = 22.22;
float *q = &b;
printf("q = %u\n", q); //q = 6422284
q++; printf("q++ = %u\n", q); //q++ = 6422288 +4 // 4 bytes
q--;
printf("q-- = %u\n", q); //q-- = 6422284 -4 // restored to original value

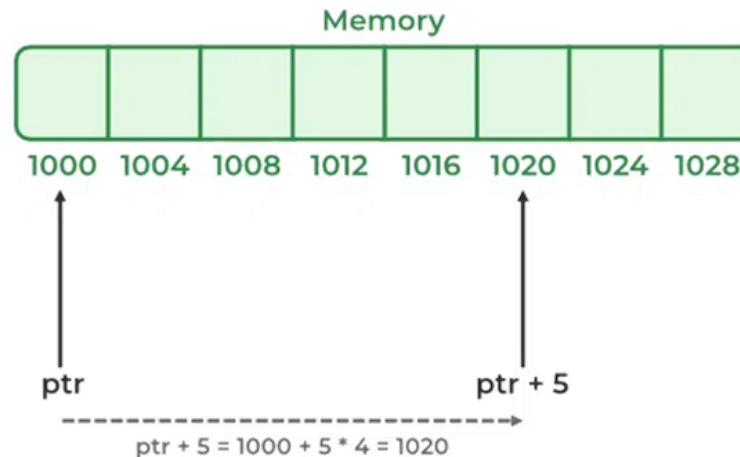
char c = 'a';
char *r = &c;
printf("r = %u\n", r); //r = 6422283
r++; printf("r++ = %u\n", r); //r++ = 6422284 +1 // 1 byte
r--;
printf("r-- = %u\n", r); //r-- = 6422283 -1 // restored to original value
```



Operations on Pointers

- The **ptr** is an **integer pointer** that stores **1000** as an address.
 - add integer **5** to it using the expression, **ptr = ptr + 5**, then,
 - the final address stored in the **ptr** will be **ptr = 1000 + sizeof(int) * 5 = 1020**.

Pointer Addition



Operations on Pointers

```
int a = 22;  
int *p = &a;  
int *q = p + 2;  
int *r = q + 2;  
int *z1, z2;
```

```
printf ("p = %u\n", p); // p = 3131704112  
printf ("q = %u\n", q); // q = 3131704120  
printf ("r = %u\n", r); // r = 3131704128  
z1 = r - p;  
printf ("z1 = r - p = %u\n", z1); // z1 = r - p = 4  
z2 = r - p;  
printf ("z2 = r - p = %u\n", z2); // z2 = r - p = 4  
z1 = r + p; // Compiler-time error  
invalid operands to binary + (have 'int *' and 'int *')
```



Operations on Pointers Examples

```
int *pi, *pj, *pk, i, j, k;
char *pa, *pb, *pc, a, b, c;

pi = &i;
pj = pi + 2;
pk = pj + 2;
pa = &a;
pb = pa + 2;
i = pj - pi;           // i = 2
j = pb - pa;           // j = 2
k = pk - pi;           // k = 4
pi = pj + pk; // compile error: No + operation for 2 pointers
pc = pi;             // compile error: Different types
i = pa - pi;         // compile error: Different ptr types
```



Array and Pointers

- Pointer can refer to each element in an array

```
int a[20];
```

```
int *pa;
```

```
pa = &a[10]; // pa refers to element 10
```

```
a[11] = *pa; // value of pa is saved in element 11
```

- The **name** of array is the **pointer to the first element**

```
pa = &a[0]; //pa refers to element 0
```

```
pa = a; //pa refers to element 0
```



Arrays and Pointers

➤ Example

```
int a[50];
```

```
int *pa;
```

```
pa = a;
```

➤ If address $a = 100$

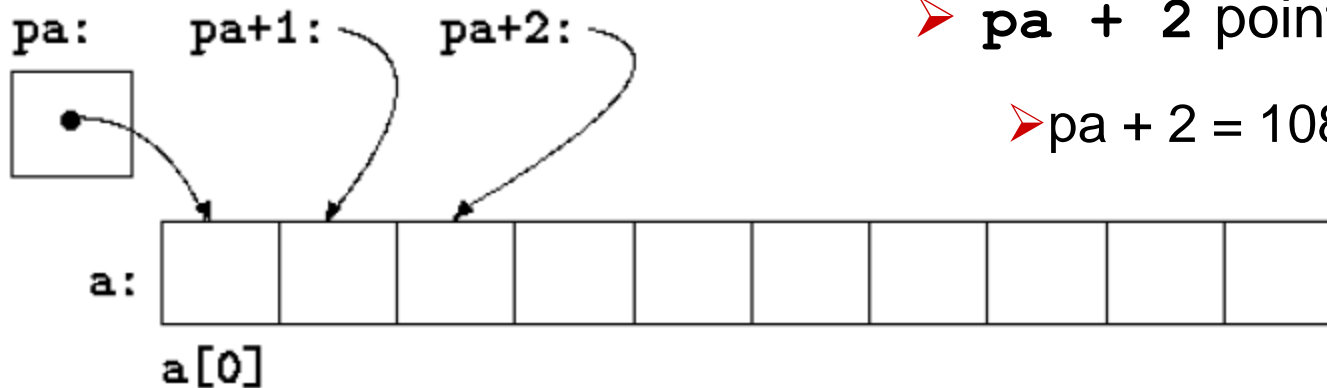
➤ $pa = 100$

➤ $pa+1$ points to $a[1]$

➤ $pa + 1 = 104$

➤ $pa + 2$ points to $a[2]$

➤ $pa + 2 = 108$



Arrays and Pointers: Similarity

```
int arr[20], *pi, j;

pi = &arr[0];    //pi refers to array
pi = pi + 2;     //pi refers to element 2
pi--;            //pi refers to element 1
j = *(pi+2);     //value of element 3

pi = arr + 2;    //pi refers to element 2
/* arr is used as a pointer */

j = pi[8];       //value of element 10
/* pi is used as array */
```



Arrays and Pointers: Difference

- We can change pointers
 - Assign new value, arithmetic and ...
- We cannot change the array variable

```
int arr[20], arr2[20], *pi;
```

```
pi = arr;
```

```
pi++;
```

```
arr2 = pi;    //Compile error
```

```
arr2 = arr;   //Compile error
```

```
arr++;       //Compile error
```



Arrays in Functions (version 2)

```
int func1(int num[90]) {
```

```
}
```

```
int func2(int num[], int size) {
```

```
}
```

```
int func3(int *num, int size) {
```

```
}
```

- **func1** knows size from [90], **func2** and **func3** know size from **int size**



Copying Arrays

```
void array_copy_wrong1(int a[], int b[]){
    a = b; //Compile error
}

void array_copy_wrong2(int *a, int *b){
    a = b; //logical error
}

void array_copy1(int dst[], int src[], int size){
    for(int i = 0; i < size; i++)
        dst[i] = src[i];
}

void array_copy2(int *dst, int *src, int size){
    for(int i = 0; i < size; i++)
        dst[i] = src[i];
}

void array_copy3(int *dst, int *src, int size){
    for(int i = 0; i < size; i++)
        *(dst + i) = *(src + i);
}

void array_copy4(int *dst, int *src, int size){
    for(int i = 0; i < size; i++, src++, dst++)
        *dst = *src;
}
```

تابعی که یک آرایه را در
آرایه دیگر کپی کند.



Copying Arrays (running example)

```
int t1[10]={0}, t2[10]={0}, t3[10]={0},  
t4[10]={0}, x[]={1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10};
```

```
array_copy1(t1, x, 10);
```

```
→ t1 = {1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10}
```

```
array_copy2(t2, x + 2, 8);
```

```
→ t2 = {3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 0 0}
```

```
array_copy3(&(t3[5]), x, 5);
```

```
→ t3 = {0 0 0 0 0 1 2 3 4 5}
```

```
array_copy4(t4 + 6, &x[8], 2);
```

```
→ t4 = {0 0 0 0 0 0 9 10 0 0}
```



Computing arr1 – arr2

```
#include <stdio.h>

int search(int *arr, int size, int num){
    int i;
    for(i = 0; i < size; i++)
        if(arr[i] == num)
            return 1;
    return 0;
}

int sub_set(int *arr1, int size_arr1, int *arr2, int
size_arr2, int *res){
    int i;
    int result_index = 0;
    for(i = 0; i < size_arr1; i++)
        if(search(arr2, size_arr2, arr1[i]) == 0){
            res[result_index] = arr1[i];
            result_index++;
        }
    return result_index;
}
```

برنامه‌ای که تفاضل دو
مجموعه را حساب کند.



Computing arr1 – arr2 (Cont'd)

```
void print_arr(int *arr, int size){
    for(int i = 0; i < size; i++)
        printf("%d ", arr[i]);
    printf("\n");
}
```

برنامه‌ای که تفاضل دو
مجموعه را حساب کند.

```
int main(void){
    int a1[] = {1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6};
    int a2[] = {4, 8, 6, 11};
    int res[100];
    int result_size;

    result_size = sub_set(a1, sizeof(a1) / sizeof(int), a2,
        sizeof(a2) / sizeof(int), res);
    if(result_size > 0)
        print_arr(res, result_size);
    else
        printf("a1 - a2 = {}\n");
    return 0;
}
```



Array of pointers

- Pointer is a type in C
 - We can define pointer variable
 - We can define array of pointer

```
int i = 10, j = 20, k = 30;
```

```
int *arr_of_pointers[10];
```

```
arr_of_pointers[0] = &i;
```

```
arr_of_pointers[1] = &j;
```

```
arr_of_pointers[2] = &k;
```

```
*arr_of_pointers[1] = *arr_of_pointers[2];
```

```
→ i = 10, j = 30, k = 30
```



Call by reference in depth

- **Note:** The **value of a pointer variable** is actually passed using **call by value**

```
void array_copy(int *dst, int *src, int size){
    for(int i = 0; i < size; i++, src++, dst++)
        *dst = *src;
    printf("%p\n%p\n", dst, src);
}
```

```
int main() {
    int a[] = {1,2,3,4,5}, b[5], *pa, *pb;
    pa = a;
    pb = b;
    printf("%p\n", pa);
    printf("%p\n", pb);
    array_copy(pb, pa, 5);
    printf("%p\n", pa);
    printf("%p\n", pb);
}
```

Outputs:

0xffffcc10

0xffffcbf0

0xffffcc04

0xffffcc24

0xffffcc10

0xffffcbf0



What We Will Learn

- Introduction
- Pointers and Functions
- Pointers and Arrays
- **Pointer and Strings**
- Pointer to Pointer & Pointer to Function
- Dynamic memory allocation



Strings and Pointers

- Since strings are array

```
char str1[8] = "program";
```

```
char str2[] = "program";
```

```
char str3[] = {'p', 'r', 'o', 'g', 'r',  
'a', 'm', '\0'};
```

- Because arrays are similar to pointers

```
char *str4 = "program";
```

'p'	'r'	'o'	'g'	'r'	'a'	'm'	'\0'
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	------



Strings in C (Cont'd)

- str1, str2, and str3 are array
- str4 is a pointer
- We cannot assign a new value to str1, str2, str3
 - Array is a fix location in memory
 - We can change the elements of array
- We can assign a new value for str4
 - Pointer is not fix location, pointer contains address of memory
 - Content of str4 is constant, you can not change elements



char Array vs. char *: Example

```
char str1[8] = "program";
```

```
//this is array initialization
```

```
char *str4 = "program";
```

```
//this is a constant string
```

```
str1[6] = 'z';
```

```
str4 = "new string";
```

```
str1 = "new array"; //Compile Error
```

```
str4[1] = 'z'; //Runtime Error
```

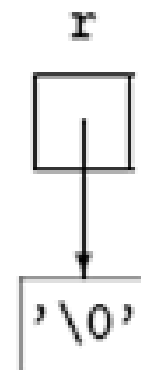
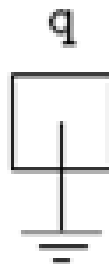
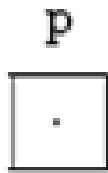
```
*(str4 + 3) = 'a'; //Runtime Error
```



Empty vs. Null

- Empty string ""
 - Is **not** null pointer
 - Is **not** uninitialized pointer

```
char *p;  
char *q = NULL;  
char *r = "";
```



More String Functions

➤ `char * strchr(const char *s, char c)`

➤ Return the pointer to the first occurrence of `c` in `s` or NULL

```
char *s="ABZDEZFZ";
```

```
char *pc = strchr(s, 'Z');
```

```
printf("First index of Z = %d", (pc - s));
```

First index of Z = 2

➤ `char * strstr(const char *s1, const char *s2)`

➤ Return pointer to the first occurrence of `s2` in `s1` or NULL

```
char *s="ABCDxyEFxyGH";
```

```
char *pc = strstr(s, "xy");
```

```
printf("First index of xy = %d", (pc - s));
```

First index of xy = 4



برنامه‌ای که دو عدد double را تا n رقم بعد از اعشار باهم مقایسه کند.

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>

int check_equal(double d1, double d2, int n){
    int dot_index1, dot_index2;
    int search_size;
    char s1[50], s2[50];
    sprintf(s1, "%0.*1f", n, d1);
    sprintf(s2, "%0.*1f", n, d2);
    dot_index1 = strchr(s1, '.') - s1;
    dot_index2 = strchr(s2, '.') - s2;
    if(dot_index1 != dot_index2)
        return 0;

    search_size = dot_index1 + n + 1;

    if(strncmp(s1, s2, search_size) == 0)
        return 1;
    else
        return 0;
}
```



برنامه‌ای که دو عدد double را تا n رقم بعد از اعشار باهم مقایسه کند.

```
int main(void) {
    int n;
    double d1, d2;
    printf("Enter numbers d1 and d2: ");
    scanf("%lf %lf", &d1, &d2);
    printf("Enter n: ");
    scanf("%d", &n);

    if(check_equal(d1, d2, n))
        printf("Are equal\n");
    else
        printf("Are Not equal\n");

    return 0;
}
```



String Tokenizer

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>
int tokenizer(char *s, char *sep, char result[][100]){
    int res_index = 0;
    char *index;
    while((index = strstr(s, sep)) != NULL){
        int len = index - s;
        if(len > 0){
            strncpy(result[res_index], s, len);
            result[res_index][len] = '\0';
            res_index++;
        }
        s = index + strlen(sep);
    }
    if(strlen(s) > 0){
        strcpy(result[res_index], s); res_index++;
    }
    return res_index;
}
```



String Tokenizer (Cont'd)

```
int main(void) {
    char *s =
        "a123bb123ccc123dddd123eeee123ffffffffffff123";
    char *sep = "123";
    char res[10][100];
    int num = tokenizer(s, sep, res);
    int i;
    for(i = 0; i < num; i++)
        printf("Token %d = %s\n", i + 1, res[i]);

    return 0;
}
```

Token 1 = a
Token 2 = bb
Token 3 = ccc
Token 4 = dddd
Token 5 = eeeee
Token 6 = ffffffff



What We Will Learn

- Introduction
- Pointers and Functions
- Pointers and Arrays
- Pointer and Strings
- **Pointer to Pointer and Pointer to Function**
- Dynamic memory allocation



Pointer to Pointer

➤ Pointer is a variable

- Has a value: address of other value
- Has an address

➤ Pointer to pointer

- Saving the address of a pointer in another pointer

```
int i, j, *pi, *pj;  
int **ppi;  
pi = &i;  
ppi = &pi;  
j = **ppi; pj = *ppi;
```



Pointer to Pointer: Example

```
int i = 10, j = 20, k = 30;
int *pi, *pj, **ppi;
pi = &i;
pj = &j;
ppi = &pi;
printf("%d\n", *pi);
printf("%d\n", **ppi);
ppi = &pj;
**ppi = 100;
printf("%d\n", j);
*ppi = &k;
printf("%d\n", *pj);
```

We will see the applications later

10

10

100

30



Pointer to functions

- Functions are stored in memory
 - Each function has its own address
- We can have pointer to function
 - A pointer that store the **address of a function**

`type (*<identifier>)(<type1>, <type2>, ...)`

`int (*pf) (char, float)`

pf is a pointer to a function that the function return int and its inputs are char and float



Pointer to functions: Example

```
int f1(int x, char c){  
    printf("This is f1: x = %d, c = %c\n", x, c); return 0;  
}
```

```
int f2(int n, char m){  
    printf("This is f2: n = %d, m = %c\n", n, m); return 0;  
}
```

```
int main(void){  
    int (*f)(int, char);    // parentheses are required here  
    f = f1;                 // or f = &f1;  
    (*f)(10, 'a');          // parentheses are optional here  
    This is f1: x = 10, c = a  
  
    f = f2;                 // or f = &f2  
    (*f)(100, 'z');         This is f2: n = 100, m = z  
    return 0;  
}
```



Pointer to function: Application 1

➤ Why?

- To develop **general** functions
 - To change function operation in run-time

➤ Example: atexit

```
#include <stdlib.h>
```

```
int atexit(void (*function) (void)) ;
```

- To do a function, when the program is terminated
 - Normal termination



Pointer to function: Application 1

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>

void good_bye(void){ printf("Goooodddd Byeee :-)\n"); }

int main(void){
    int i;
    atexit(good_bye);
    printf("Enter an int: ");
    scanf("%d", &i);
    if(i < 0){
        printf("No negative\n");
        return 0;
    }
    if(i > 7){
        printf("No more than 7\n");
        return 0;
    }
    if(i % 2 == 0)
        printf("Go to class \n");
    else
        printf("Do the homework \n");

    return 0;
}
```



Pointer to function: Application 2

➤ Why?

- To develop general functions
 - To change function operation in run-time

➤ Example: qsort function in <stdlib.h>

```
void qsort(void *arr, int num, int element_size, int  
          (*compare)(void *, void *))
```

➤ To sort array arr with num elements of size element_size.

➤ The order between elements is specified by the “compare” function



Pointer to function: Application 2

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>

int int_cmp_asc(const void *i1, const void *i2){
    int a = *((int *)i1);
    int b = *((int *)i2);

    return (a > b) ? 1 : (a == b) ? 0 : -1;
}

int int_cmp_dsc(const void *i1, const void *i2){
    int a = *((int *)i1);
    int b = *((int *)i2);

    return (a > b) ? -1 : (a == b) ? 0 : 1;
}
```



Pointer to function: Application 2

```
int main(void){
    int i;
    int arr[] = {1, 7, 3, 11, 9};
    qsort(arr, 5, sizeof(int), int_cmp_asc);

    for(i = 0; i < 5; i++)
        printf("%d \n", arr[i]);

    qsort(arr, 5, sizeof(int), int_cmp_dsc);

    for(i = 0; i < 5; i++)
        printf("%d \n", arr[i]);

    return 0;
}
```



What We Will Learn

- Introduction
- Pointers and Functions
- Pointers and Arrays
- Pointer and Strings
- Pointer to Pointer & Pointer to Function
- **Dynamic memory allocation**



Dynamic Memory Allocation

- Until now we define variables:

```
int i; int a[200]; int x[n]
```

- Memory is allocated for the variables **when the scope starts**
- Allocated memory is released **when the scope finishes**
- We **cannot change** the size of the allocated memories
 - We cannot change the size of array
- These variables are in ***stack***
- We want to see how to allocate memory in ***heap***



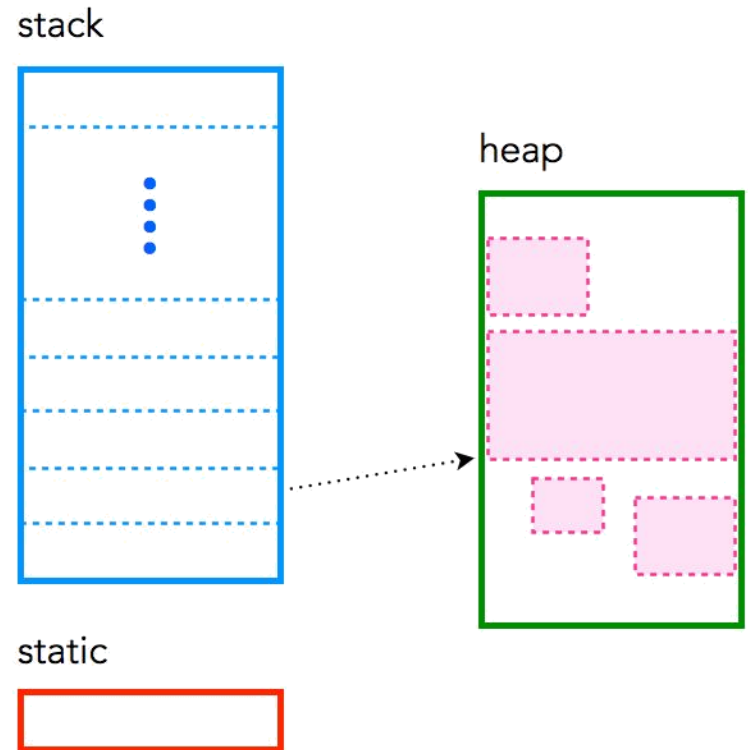
Heap

- Memory is composed of a few **logical sections**
 - **Stack** is one of the logical sections that is used for function calls
 - All automatic variables are allocated in stack
 - Stack is managed by operating system
 - Created by function call and destroyed when function ends
- Another logical section is “**Heap**”
 - Heap is used for dynamic memory allocation
 - Heap is **managed by programmer** (at least in C)
 - Memory allocation functions and the `free` function



Stack, Heap, and Static Memories

- C has three different pools of memory:
 - **Static:** global variable storage, permanent for the entire run of the program.
 - **Stack:** local variable storage (automatic, continuous memory).
 - **Heap:** dynamic storage (large pool of memory, not allocated in contiguous order).



Dynamic Memory Allocation (cont'd)

- Memory allocation by `calloc`

```
#include <stdlib.h>
```

```
void * calloc(int num, int size);
```

- `void *` is generic pointer, it can be converted to every pointer type
- Allocates a block of memory for an array of `num` elements, each of them `size` bytes long, and initializes all its bits to zero.
- If memory is not available `calloc` returns **NULL**



Dynamic Memory Allocation (cont'd)

- Memory allocation by `malloc`

```
#include <stdlib.h>
```

```
void * malloc(int size);
```

- `void *` is generic pointer, it can be converted to every pointer type.
- Allocates a block of size bytes of memory, returning a pointer to the beginning of the block. Allocated memory is **not Initialized**.
- If memory is not available `malloc` returns **NULL**



Dynamic Memory Allocation: Example

```
int *pi;  
  
/* allocate memory, convert it to int * */  
pi = (int *) malloc(sizeof(int));  
  
if(pi == NULL) {  
    printf("cannot allocate\n");  
    return -1;  
}
```

```
double *pd;  
  
pd = (double *) calloc(1, sizeof(double));
```



Free

- In static memory allocation, memory is freed when block/scope is finished
- In dynamic memory allocation, we **must free** the allocated memory

```
int *pi;  
pi = (int *) malloc(sizeof(int)) ;  
if (pi != NULL)  
    free(pi) ;
```



برنامه‌ای که n را می‌گیرد، آرایه با اندازه n را تولید و بعد حافظه را آزاد می‌کند.

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
int main(void){
    int i, n;
    int *arr;
    printf("Enter n: ");
    scanf("%d", &n);
    arr = (int *)calloc(n, sizeof(int));
    if(arr == NULL){
        printf("cannot allocate memory\n");
        exit(-1);
    }
    for(i = 0; i < n; i++) /* do you work here */
        arr[i] = i;
    for(i = 0; i < n; i++)
        printf("%d\n", arr[i]);
    free(arr);
    return 0;
}
```



برنامه‌ای که n و m را می‌گیرد، ماتریس $n \times m$ را تولید و بعد حافظه را آزاد می‌کند.

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
int main(void){
    int i, j, n, m;
    int **arr;
    printf("Enter n, m: ");
    scanf("%d%d", &n, &m);
    arr = (int **)malloc(n * sizeof(int *));
    for(i = 0; i < n; i++)
        arr[i] = (int *)malloc(m * sizeof(int));
    for(i = 0; i < n; i++)
        for(j = 0; j < m; j++)
            arr[i][j] = i * j;
    for(i = 0; i < n; i++)
        free(arr[i]);
    free(arr);
    return 0;
}
```



Reallocation

- If we need to change the size of allocated memory: Expand or Shrink it

```
void * realloc(void *p, int newsize);
```

- Allocate **newsize** bytes for pointer **p**
- Previous data of **p** does **not** change
- If the new size is larger, the value of the newly allocated portion is indeterminate.



Reallocation

```
int *p;

p = (int *)calloc(2, sizeof(int));

printf("%d\n", *p);           // 0
*p = 500;
printf("%d\n", *(p+1));      // 0
*(p + 1) = 100;

p = (int *)realloc(p, sizeof(int) * 4);

printf("%d\n", *p);           // 500
p++;
printf("%d\n", *p);           // 100
p++;
printf("%d\n", *p);           // ???
p++;
printf("%d\n", *p);           // ???
```



برنامه‌ای که تعدادی عدد (تعداد آن را نمی‌دانیم) که با 1- تمام می‌شود را بگیرد و اعداد کوچکتر از میانگین را چاپ کند.

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>

void find_small(double *arr, int size){
    int i;
    double sum = 0, average;
    for(i = 0; i < size; i++)
        sum += arr[i];

    average = sum / size;
    for(i = 0; i < size; i++)
        if(arr[i] < average)
            printf("%f ", arr[i]);
}
```



برنامه‌ای که تعدادی عدد (تعداد آن را نمی‌دانیم) که با 1- تمام می‌شود را بگیرد و اعداد کوچکتر از میانگین را چاپ کند.

```
int main(void) {
    double *arr = NULL; int index = 0;
    while(1) {
        double num;
        printf("Enter number (-1 to finish): ");
        scanf("%lf", &num);
        if(num == -1)
            break;
        if(arr == NULL)
            arr = (double *)malloc(sizeof(double));
        else
            arr = (double *)realloc(arr, (index + 1) * sizeof(double));
        arr[index] = num;
        index++;
    }
    find_small(arr, index);
    if(arr != NULL)
        free(arr);
    return 0;
}
```



An example of multifunction application (menu-based app)

- برنامه‌ای بنویسید که منوی زیر را به کاربر نشان دهد:

1: New Data

2: Show Data

3: Exit

- اگر کاربر 1 وارد کند، برنامه عدد n را می‌گیرد، آرایه‌ای به طول n ایجاد می‌کند. سپس، n عدد را از کاربر می‌گیرد و آنها را در آرایه نگه می‌دارد.
- اگر کاربر 2 وارد کند اطلاعات وارد شده نشان داده می‌شود.
- اگر کاربر 3 وارد کند از برنامه خارج می‌شویم.



An example of multifunction application (menu-based app)

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>

void show() {
    printf("1: New Data\n");
    printf("2: Show Data\n");
    printf("3: Exit\n");
}

int main(void) {
    int n;
    int *arr = NULL;
    while(1) {
        int code;
        show();
        scanf("%d", &code);

        if(code == 1) {
            printf("Enter size: ");
            scanf("%d", &n);
            printf("Enter data: \n");
            if(arr == NULL)
                arr = (int *)malloc(n * sizeof(int));
            else
                arr = (int *)realloc(arr, n *
sizeof(int));
            int i;
            for(i = 0; i < n; i++)
                scanf("%d", &(arr[i]));
        }
    }
}
```



An example of multifunction application (menu-based app)

```
else if(code == 2){
    printf("Your data: ");
    int i;
    for(i = 0; i < n; i++)
        printf("%d ", arr[i]);

    printf("\n");
}
else if(code == 3){
    if(arr != NULL)
        free(arr);
    exit(0);
}
else{
    printf("Unknown input ...\n");
}
}
```



What We Will Learn

- Introduction
- Pointers and Functions
- Pointers and Arrays
- Pointer and Strings
- Pointer to Pointer & Pointer to Function
- Dynamic memory allocation
- Common Bugs



Common Bugs

➤ Be **very very** careful about pointers

➤ Invalid type of value assigned to pointer

```
int i, *pi = &i;
```

```
*pi = 29.090; // No warning in some compilers!!!
```

➤ Invalid usage of pointers

```
int *pi, i;
```

```
pi = i;
```

```
i = pi;
```

➤ We cannot change constant string

➤ `char *s = "abc";`

➤ `*(s + 1) = 'z'; // Run Time Error`



Reference

- **Reading Assignment:** Chapter 7 of “C How to Program”

